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Dore Gold named UN envoy

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday announced the appointment of Dore Gold, his political adviser, as Israel's new ambassador to the United Nations. Uzi Arad, head of the Mossad's research department, will replace Gold as Netanyahu's adviser, the Prime Minister's Office said.

Gold, who before becoming an adviser to Netanyahu headed the department of US foreign policy in the Middle East at Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, takes over from acting ambassador David Peleg. The post of ambassador has not been filled for a year, since David Yaacobi, appointed by the previous Labor government, concluded his term.

Gold, 43, is from West Hartford, Connecticut. He immigrated in 1980, after completing a Ph.D. in Middle East studies at Columbia University.

Elihu Ben-Elissar is to retain his post as ambassador to the US, it was agreed yesterday, after his two meetings with Netanyahu.

"I'm the Israeli ambassador in Washington and have every intention of continuing my work," Ben-Elissar said yesterday afternoon.

Ben-Elissar, who flew in to Jerusalem on Tuesday for urgent talks with Netanyahu amid rumors that the prime minister intended to replace him with Gold, appeared relieved yesterday upon coming out of his second meeting with the prime minister.

"Disappointed? I am happy and contented," he told reporters, noting that the wave of rumors about the intention to fire him had damaged his work and adding that he was returning to Washington "to rebuild the debris."

Blasting those who spread critical reports of his performance and rumors of his replacement, Ben-Elissar said, "I have been undermined. Maybe in some quarters in Israel people don't realize how much damage this kind of campaign can cause to a man who goes above and beyond his powers to present and represent Israel's interests in the United States."

Ben-Elissar denied reports that he had wanted to be appointed head of the Mossad, saying, "This idea was born in someone's feverish imagination."



Dore Gold (David Rubinger)



Authority heads intensify protest

Employees of the Sapir Local Council march toward the Prime Minister's Office yesterday to demand a resolution to the local authorities' debt crisis. An estimated 7,000 workers took part in the protest, and were stopped from entering the compound by police. Interior Minister Eli Suissa came to express solidarity with the demonstrators, saying that although their demands are just, a solution has not yet been found.

Soldier seriously hurt by explosion in south Lebanon

By DAVID RUDGE

An IDF soldier was seriously wounded in an explosion in the security zone yesterday morning, as the escalation in hostilities in south Lebanon continued.

The soldier, suffering from chest wounds, was brought by helicopter to Haifa's Rambam Hospital, after a stopover during the flight to enable doctors to carry out an emergency operation.

Weizman: We must talk with Syria, Page 12

His condition in the hospital's intensive care unit remained serious, but stable last night.

The soldier, a dog-handler, was with a joint unit of paratroopers and Givati Brigade soldiers which left the Beaufort Castle area yesterday morning on a road-clearing patrol.

His dog, apparently specially trained to detect explosives, was part of the patrol whose aim was to ensure the road, leading to nearby Arnoun village, was free of any devices or mines and that there were no terrorists in the region. However, an explosion wounded the dog-handler and lightly hurt his dog.

Beilin: Officers in favor of Lebanon pullout silenced

By LIAT COLLINS

MK Yossi Beilin, a candidate for the Labor Party leadership, called again yesterday for a unilateral IDF withdrawal from south Lebanon, saying that even senior officers in the Northern Command favor such a move.

In an urgent motion to the agenda in the Knesset plenum, he said it would be possible to establish a security fence along the border and deploy soldiers on the Israeli side to help ensure the safety of the northern communities.

He said this could be done on the basis of an understanding with Lebanon. He criticized the fact that every time the subject is raised - even by IDF officers - people try to silence the discussion by saying it is disrespectful to the fallen soldiers, harms morale, and feeds fears by the South Lebanese Army that Israel will desert it.

"There are senior officers, even in the Northern Command, who talk about the need, perhaps the necessity, to get out of there [South Lebanon], and they are also silenced," he said.

"And I ask myself, 'Who must speak out? Who is allowed to speak out? Who and when can someone open their mouth and say, 'Enough?'' After all, somebody has to have the courage to

say, 'No more.'"

Beilin said the fear of pulling out prevents the government from being open to creative solutions.

"Israel can solve the problem of the SLA without being there. To protect the North, you don't have to be abroad," he said.

He said it is not the security zone that prevents Katyusha fire on northern Israel, but the understanding reached at the end of Operation Grapes of Wrath.

Ephraim Sneh, another Labor leadership candidate and a former commander in South Lebanon, completely rejected Beilin's stand, describing it as "based on a huge mistaken premise, irresponsible, and impractical." He said Beilin was not speaking for the Labor Party on the subject.

Arieh O'Sullivan adds: IDF Spokesman Brig. Gen. Oded Ben-Ami rejected Beilin's accusations that senior IDF officers, particularly those in the Northern Command, are hushed up when they speak of leaving the security zone. He said it is the definite IDF position that Israel remain in the security zone.

"As a result of discussions and situation assessments that are held in the IDF, under the existing factors, the only way to ensure the safety of the residents of the North is by keeping IDF and SLA forces in the security zone," Ben-Ami said.

US, Israel slam Arafat

Blast land death penalty

By LIAT COLLINS and news agencies

The US and Israel yesterday sharply criticized Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat for saying he backs a law imposing the death penalty for land sales to Jews.

"Frankly, his comments this morning are comments that we cannot support, are comments that leave us quite puzzled as to why he would say those things," State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said.

"The United States condemns any law or any decree that would threaten death against any Palestinian for selling land to Israelis or Jews," Burns told a news briefing. "That's wrong. It's contrary to what must prevail in the Middle East, which is peace."

"Chairman Arafat must stand up for the rule of law. He must defend it in what he says and what he does, and frankly the recent statements by members of his administration ... inciting Palestinians to attack and murder other Palestinians for selling land, those statements are reprehensible."

Cabinet secretary Danny Naveh said yesterday the government will complain to the United Nations over the PA's decision to impose the death penalty on people who sell land to Jews.

A statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office said: "The cabinet secretary, who is also the chairman of the government forum [monitoring] antisemitism worldwide, is about to present the UN committee on human rights with a complaint about the Palestinian Authority decision. The decision is in essence racist and reeks of antisemitism." Arafat said in an interview with

Yedioth Aharonot yesterday that he backs the recent decision to enforce an old Jordanian law in the West Bank imposing the death penalty for land sales to Jews.

"We are talking about isolated traitors," Arafat said. "And we will impose against them what is on the law books. That is our right and our obligation to protect our land."

Palestinian security forces arrested 15 land dealers from the Hebron area yesterday. They were asked about their business contacts with Jews and "the investigators left no doubt regarding what is liable to happen if my good connections with Jews continue," one of those arrested said yesterday.

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani criticized Arafat in a Knesset plenum discussion on the murder of two Arab land dealers who sold property to Jews.

"We haven't seen this style, which allows someone to murder someone else without a trial, for a long time in the Middle East," Kahalani said. "Does Arafat allow every person on the street to take the law into his own hands?"

"If today he permits the murder of land dealers, tomorrow it will be something else ... I think his very statements will cause this sort of violence in the Palestinian Authority areas, which it will not be able to stop in the future."

Kahalani said Israel would not ignore the matter. He also promised protection to those who require it. "As for residents of eastern Jerusalem, Israeli citizens, we will protect and defend them," he said.

Kahalani said he is "very worried by what's happening in eastern Jerusalem."

See ARAFAT, Page 2

Journalist Kuttab held in Ramallah Prison

By JON IMMANUEL

Daoud Kuttab, a Palestinian journalist and broadcaster, is being held in Ramallah Prison apparently because he televised the live proceedings of the Palestinian legislative council.

Kuttab, who heads Al-Quds TV, a private station, complained to Palestinian Authority members that his channel was being jammed by the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation whenever he broadcast the legislative council sessions.

Kuttab told The Jerusalem Post three weeks ago that four sessions in a row were jammed, though nothing controversial was discussed. The last session this week was not jammed.

Kuttab is a US citizen and holds a Jerusalem resident's identity card, which means that he is not under the jurisdiction of the PA.

The US consul visited him yesterday, his family said.

"They don't have the right to arrest him, nor has he committed a crime, but that's what they call democracy," the relative said.

Kuttab was summoned to the police station in Ramallah on Tuesday morning for questioning, and was then held overnight.

The relative said police had wanted to release Kuttab, but said they could do nothing until PA Chairman Yasser Arafat returns from Cairo today.

The jamming of the broadcasts, seen in the Jerusalem-Ramallah area, began last month. Kuttab said at the time he suspected the reason was political, although the PBC denied it.

At the time, Marwan Kanafani, a spokesman for Arafat who is also a council member, said "whether or not an official body is doing the jamming it should be stopped."



Daoud Kuttab (Efraim Kishon)

Scholars scoff at 'inflated' Holocaust report

By ELI WOHLGELERTER

Calling the report "idiotic," "childish," "stupid," and "pure nonsense," Holocaust historians here said that documents released by Britain on Monday reveal no new evidence, and that it is impossible there were seven million Jewish victims of the Holocaust.

"Seven million Jews died, you would have to prove that they lived before that," said Prof. Yehuda

Bauer of the Hebrew University and Yad Vashem. "Because of the statistics that are quite clear today - at least in a general outline of who survived the Holocaust and how many survived, and how many were there before the Holocaust started - it would mean inventing another million Jews."

Britain's Public Record Office released some 10,000 pages of classified files on Monday, which included secret radio messages sent by German troops advancing into the Soviet Union in the summer of 1941. These messages, decoded by the Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park, detail the first action of mass murder taken by the Nazis against Jewish civilians. But the knowledge of these

actions, according to Bauer and Dr. Yitzhak Arad, former chairman of Yad Vashem, is nothing new.

"It's idiotic," said Bauer. "We have known that the mass murder of the Jews began with the invasion of the Soviet Union by the Nazis from the Nuremberg trials, so this has been basic knowledge for the last 52 years. To say today that this is a new discovery is just childish, to put it mildly."

Release of the files prompted misleading news stories around the world, including in The Jerusalem Post. Some media reported that - besides the possibility of seven million Jews having been killed, and the "discovery" that the Final Solution began earlier than previously believed -

the Allies, including Winston Churchill, knew of Hitler's plans to annihilate all the Jews.

The released documents only provide a bit more detail of what took place, Bauer said. When put together with what was already known, these "are really kind of a detailed accounting of local pogroms. At least that's what the people at Bletchley must have deduced. Nobody could have deduced from those figures that there was a plan to murder all Jews, and certainly not a figure of six million. Nobody could predict that," said Bauer.

Moreover, he continued, the decoded radio transmissions from the German police units only continued until mid-September of 1941, "because after that they were

told not to mention what the nationality was, and in any case not to report by radio about executions, but to keep it in written form, only top secret.

"So we are dealing with a short period of two and a half months. To say that from that anyone could conclude what the policy was is simply unrealistic."

"No figure could be extrapolated - none at all - because you didn't know if these murders were taking place only in the framework of the war against the Soviet Union, or whether they were also going to be expanded into Poland and countries further west, north, or south. Nobody could know that."

See HOLOCAUST, Page 2

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Stamping tourists out

By RUTHIE BLUM

Travelers to countries which have no diplomatic ties with Israel are familiar with the procedure of obtaining an "Israel stamp-free" passport. Less weathered visitors learn from travel brochures or travel agents that where many countries are concerned, permission to visit is not granted to anyone who has Israel stamped in his or her passport.

documents with Israel's stamp. The hour was 4 a.m. M.R. approached the woman behind the passport-control counter. "Please do not stamp this passport," he said to the sleepy bureaucrat, as he handed her the document. He then repeated his request in Hebrew, to make sure she knew what he was talking about. She nodded, as she slammed the stamp into M.R.'s passport. "I told you not to stamp it!" he wailed, as he saw his trip fade into oblivion.

stood either the request or the convention, the only thing this traveler could have done was to go to his consulate and take out another passport. This would not have helped M.R. For one thing, the mishap occurred in the middle of the night. For another, the visa to Syria was inside the stamped passport. Foreign Ministry Assistant Spokesman Effi Matiyahu reiterated Sanduri's statements. "We look the other way in these cases. What happens between a traveler and the authorities of his own country is his problem," he said. "However, this does not mean that we are obligated towards someone who fell prey to this kind of mishap."

FLAIR

A cut above the rest

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

A new Miss Lagotte Studio at the Rehavia Windmill in Jerusalem offers more variety and quality than most other Miss Lagotte outlets, though at higher prices. Best of all is the opportunity to browse at leisure. "We're consumers as well as store-owners," says Zahava Levy, one of the owners of the Miss Lagotte chain. "We understand that there are those people who want to feel free to look around, while there are others who need help shopping and are almost too timid to make their own selections. On the other hand there are some women who don't need any help at all. I'm one of those who don't, and I understand that there are others like me." The bottom line is that sales staff will approach anyone who wanders in to ask if they can be of service, and if the potential customer says "I'm just looking," no pressure will be applied. Levy's philosophy is that you may not always buy what you like, but if you like what you see, you'll come back and look again.



Because the merchandise in the Miss Lagotte Studio is somewhat pricey, the opportunity to really look is a vital element in sales promotion. Thus the fashion show at the launch was not your usual runway parade. Instead guests were able to mingle and chat with models, as well as survey the garments on the rack. This enabled anyone who was interested in seeing an item close up, to observe its fluidity and details; feel its texture and to examine its workmanship. It wasn't one of those fleeting struts in which spectators barely get a chance to take note of the silhouette before it disappears. Not everything in the store is expensive. A fully lined miniskirt for instance carries a NIS 289 price tag, but at the opposite extreme is a simple, unlined, sleeveless linen maxi dress for NIS 669. Coming down a little in price is a fully lined viscose/linen safari dress for NIS 549, but its matching jacket will set you back to the tune of NIS 689. A zip-frosted polo dress with an above the knee hemline is selling for NIS 969. The color palette is quite extensive incorporating black, white, cream, navy, lime, different shades of gray, every imaginable shade of beige and banana, azure blue, tangerine, aubergine, turquoise, emerald, lemon, cherry red and various shades of brown in solids, stripes, large and small checks, spots, animal-skin prints and florals. For anyone who needs to build a modular wardrobe with a minimal number of items, this is the place. The dominant look is long and lean, but there are shorter jackets and wider skirts in abundance. If you're a brand-name buyer, the brands in stock include Ouiset, Oui, Weill, Atika, She and Migoscha. For the most part, the workmanship is far superior to that of Israeli-made clothing, with well-cut silhouettes and seams properly overlocked.

Selections from Ouiset's spring-summer collection.

South Korean ginseng growers see tradition fading

By SANG-HUN CHOE

For most of his 80 years, Lee Bong-hee has roamed dark regions of Korea's tough hills, looking for shady, rocky patches suitable for planting ginseng. The root is fabled in Asia for its ability to promote health and vitality, but it is a tough crop to grow. "It all starts with finding the right type of soil," Lee says. Lee and others of his age wonder how much longer their countrymen will be willing to engage in the generations-old search. Only 20,000 to 24,000 ginseng growers are left in South Korea. "Children are not taking over. We send them to universities, and they don't come back," says Hwang In-chul, an official of a ginseng-growers' cooperative on Kanghwa, an island northwest of Seoul. Little wonder, considering the intensive work required to grow ginseng, a sweet but bitter-tasting root that has fascinated Asians for centuries because of its supposed medicinal properties. Korea was the first recorded nation to cultivate ginseng and boasts its variety is superior to any other. Believing the root is a cure-all for everything from a common cold to a sagging libido, Koreans consume it in tea, tablets and food. A fifth-century Chinese medical book says: "Ginseng...evens the

spirits, allays fear, improves the eyesight, sharpens the memory, removes thirst, and if taken for a while, invigorates the body and prolongs life." Strong demand and the toughness of bringing in a crop means the rewards can be considerable for those willing to spend the time and effort. Ginseng sells for about \$60 per 450 grams, and 0.4 hectare of the right kind of loamy, rocky, heavily shaded and well-drained land on a mountain slope can produce 1,500 kilograms worth \$198,000. "But that prized hectare will produce only one crop every 17 years. Ginseng farming is such a gamble," says Lee, whose leathery face resembles the wrinkled texture of the golden roots he has grown as a full-time time occupation for 45 years. "When city people drive by and see ginseng, they see money. They don't see what's behind all that." Lee recalls countless sleepless nights when his father, and his grandfather before that, sat up through the darkness, reading the sky for the weather the next day. "Ginseng grows listening to the farmer's footsteps," he says. "They are like little toddlers. They need constant care." Ginseng is extremely vulnerable to fungus and root rot. Exposure to direct sunlight is fatal to the plant, so it must be planted in fields that get sunlight only at dawn and sunset. Farmers must enclose their plots

with snares and traps to protect the crop from pests and thieves. Above all, ginseng is such a slow-growing crop that Chu Bong-hwan, a 74-year-old farmer, says: "If there is one way not to grow ginseng, it is 'quick and fast.'" It takes 18 months to grow ginseng seedlings. After transplanting, half of the seedlings will die or rot before producing the most coveted seven-year-old root thick with its unique aroma. Then, because Asians believe ginseng absorbs its medicinal powers from the ground, farmers leave plots dormant for a decade before planting more ginseng. Even after the rest, the used ground never produces the same quality, they say. Farmers, thus, are forced to search constantly for new fields to rent. Most of the easily accessible ground has been used up or planted with quick-return crops, pushing ginseng growers farther away from towns. A big portion of South Korean ginseng is now grown in a restricted area just south of the heavily guarded demilitarized zone between South and North Korea. It just may have some of the powers attributed to it by its admirers, Asian experts say. More of the purported curative powers of ginseng, including its anti-impotence effect, are supported by laboratory testing as scientists pay more attention to organic herbs as a natural alternative to synthetic drugs. (AP)

BARGAIN BASEMENT advertisement listing various household items for sale at discounted prices, including furniture, electronics, and appliances.

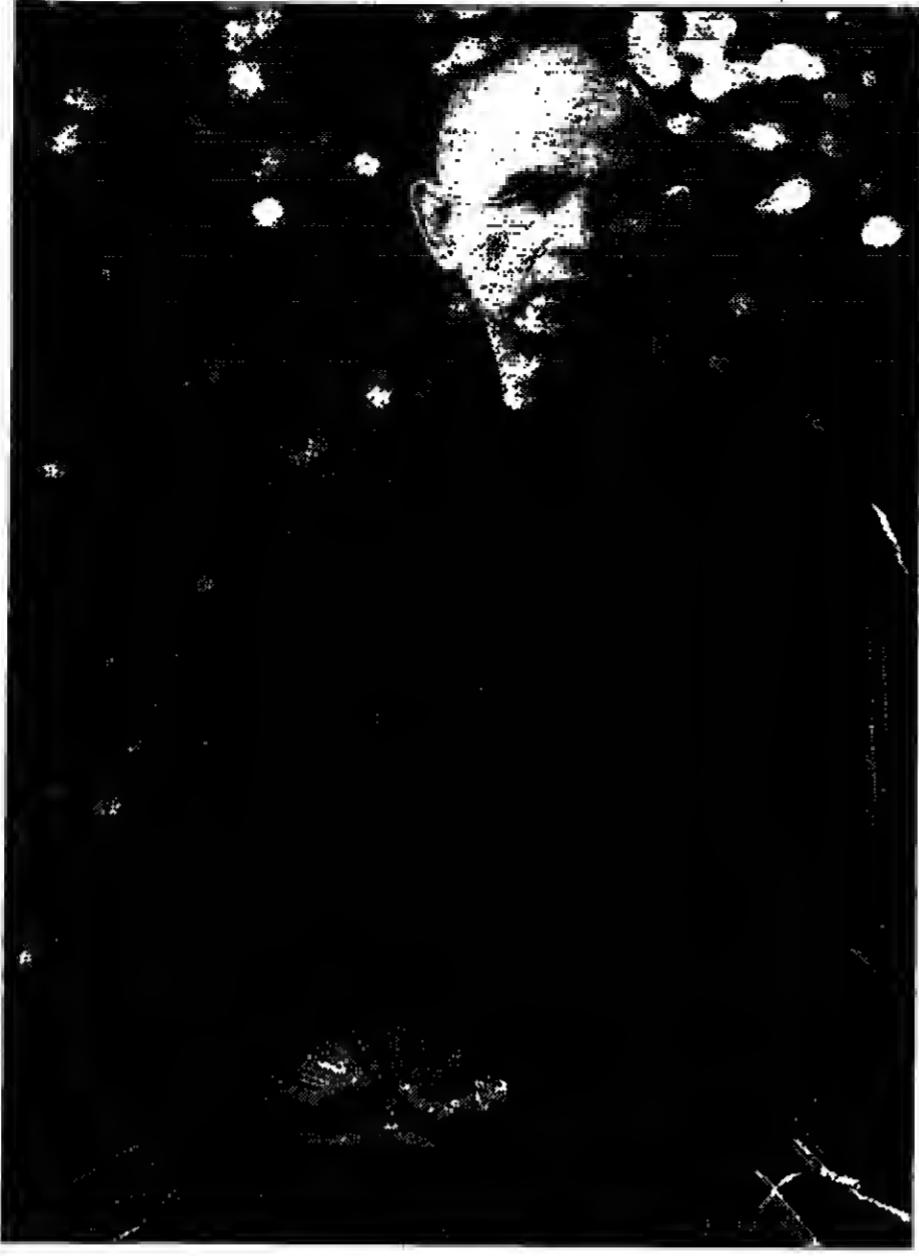
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A Master of peace of mind

A Zen Buddhist teaches that Israelis must make peace with themselves before they can hope to make peace with their neighbors, **Rikki Horowitz reports**

A renowned Zen Buddhist monk, once nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, brought his message to Israel this week. Thich Nhat Hanh (pronounced Tick Not Han) urged Jews to return to their roots in a series of sold-out workshops and lectures. The 71-year-old Vietnamese-born scholar, peace activist and spiritual leader preaches a non-sectarian form of Buddhism that focuses on meditative practice as a way of life, rather than a religion, and encourages people to embrace their own traditions.



Thich Nhat Hanh: 'Everywhere I go, I urge people to return to their roots.'

lives - the way we think, speak and act - we begin to change the world." Engaged Buddhism, the movement he founded in 1964, promotes staying in the world, not closing oneself off from it. He stresses the importance of finding ways to speak out and work against social, political, and economic injustices, while maintaining one's composure and meditative awareness. In the early '60s, Thich Nhat Hanh founded a grassroots relief organization that rebuilt bombed villages in Saigon. He rallied 10,000 student volunteers to set up schools and medical centers and resettle homeless families, but was denounced by the government and exiled in 1966. In the US, he met with federal officials, including then-secretary of defense Robert McNamara, to press for peace, and persuaded Martin Luther King Jr. to publicly oppose the Vietnam War. The following year, King nominated him for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Thich Nhat Hanh led the Buddhist delegation to the Paris Peace Talks in 1973. One of his followers, Michael Rosenbush of Paris, was inspired to bring him to Israel following Yitzhak Rabin's assassination. Rosenbush felt the Buddhist master had much to teach the Israeli public, based on his own experiences dealing with war, bombing, suffering and trying to bring peace and reconciliation to his people. "He's an example of how to deal with the past, how to create a reality by embracing former enemies, and behaving with love and compassion and understanding, as he puts it - watering the seeds of love, instead of anger which turns to hate," said Rosenbush.



Not Page One Half the fun is flying there By Sam Orbaum

Na Nach Nachma Nachman from El Al. Nachman Klieman is the spokesman, PR manager - and complaints trouble-shooter - for the first Hebrew airline in 2,000 years. He seems the perfect sort of chap to put his ear on the line. He's sympathetic and earnest, rather than slick and glib. He prefers the personal approach over form letters. When you've got Klieman on the phone, El Al doesn't seem so monolithic. The former Chicagoan, at 49 the same age as his favorite airline, can reel off facts and stats and survey results and industry comparisons, but that's not Not Page One stuff. It's the stories he tells.

"There was this one lady, a woman journalist from Tel Aviv, who objected to prayers being conducted near her seat. She asked that they be stopped, even threatening to strip. She was told, sorry, if you'll be a bit patient, they'll be finished soon. "Sure enough, she stood up in front of the men, and started removing her blouse. Well, she ended up backing down before they did, and lost her nerve before going too far." The *minyana* is, of course, a trademark of El Al. "It gives people a feeling of being at home, and it's not just religious Jews, it's religious Christians as well. Sure, some people complain a bit, but generally Israelis won't pay any attention to it; tourists do, they admire it; you'll see them craning their heads to watch. "El Al has created an environment that we're proud of," says Klieman. "The taste of Israel starts as soon as you get on board." For good and bad.

"There's an attitude of 'this is my airline, since I pay taxes, and I can do what I want and if they tell me not to smoke in a non-smoking area, I can ignore them because this is my company and I can do so.' "On the other hand, there's an environment of friendliness where people talk to each other. You may not see that in other airlines, where people just sit there and don't move throughout the flight." Mind you, other airlines like it that way. "Tel Aviv is recognized in the industry as a difficult destination. The passengers are, um, a little more difficult." We like to see what we can get away with. "We had a couple check into a flight where the woman was nine months pregnant. She hid that fact by wearing a large coat. Technically, you're not allowed to fly after the seventh month unless there's a doctor's letter. "Anyway, the plane took off, onstop to New York, fully loaded with 400 passengers. About three hours out of Tel Aviv, she went into labor. "They decided to land in London, but that meant getting special authorization, because of noise-abatement restrictions; we had to prepare an ambulance, wake up El Al staff in the early morning to get to the airport to take care of all the passengers and the aircraft. And of course there was the huge inconvenience to 400 people, the missed connections. "We incurred a lot of anger, and a lot of unnecessary costs such as landing fees and takeoff fees and handling fees and refueling and time loss. Anyway, we got the woman to a hospital in time, and she had the baby. "Now, technically, we could have sued her. But instead, we sent her flowers. "That's the kind of thing that sets us apart, our compassion. "Remember, we're the airline that dropped everything and

"Tel Aviv is recognized in the industry as a difficult destination. The passengers are, um, a little more difficult."

THERE AND THEN

Salonika: A pre-war Garden of Eden for Jews

It was the Salonikans who saved Tel Aviv from starvation when, during the Arab revolt half a century ago Jaffa port was closed to Jews. A jetty was constructed near the estuary of the Yarkon river. Launches carried sacks of flour from a ship moored offshore, and former Salonikan stevedores carried the sacks on their backs from the jetty to a makeshift warehouse on the shore. Only Salonika could do it: They had the role of handling the port duties. Up to the end of the Turkish era, a visitor described Salonika as a garden of Eden for the Jews. And, although they wore the baggy Turkish-style trousers and a turban on their heads, the sailors on local ships, the stevedores in the port and the obstreperous custom agents were practically all Jews. And most of the landlords and the workers on the land probably were too. The story of the Jews of Salonika over the nearly 300 years that it was under Turkish rule (it reverted to the Greeks and to its Greek name of Thessaloniki in 1912) is told by some 10 scholars in *Yemei Hasahar* (The Days of the Crescent), edited by Mirm Roszen, who holds the chair for the history and culture of the Jews of Salonika at Tel Aviv University. Theirs was hardly a pastoral existence. Indeed, the bitter persecutions they had to suffer under the Christian lords of Byzantium



Turn of the century Jewish family from Salonika.

ceased under the Ottomans. Salonika became a safe haven for refugees in search of relative security from the intolerance of Spain and Germany. From Salonika and other towns in the Balkans, Jewish traders were able to facilitate the exchange of goods between western Europe, via Venice and Leghorn, and the East, through Istanbul and Egypt. Commerce was, of course, a traditional "Jewish" trade. But so too were medicine, banking and textiles. Over the years, Salonika became an important center of wool weaving. The Salonikans invited experts to teach them how to produce all sorts of salable commodities, including wine. But hazards lurked in many quarters. Izmir, across the Aegean, vied for the same markets Salonika nurtured, as did the other Balkan ports such as Ragusa (Dubrovnik). The Sublime Porte - the central government in Istanbul - was interested mainly in money. To taxes that existed under Christians were added new ones, which the community could not sustain. The Jews tried the impossible: Rabbi Moshe Almosnino led a delegation to Istanbul and, after three years, obtained from the Sultan an exemption from certain dues. However,

Almosnino was not appreciated by everybody back home - some people refused to participate in the expenses of the expedition because, they claimed, they could do it more cheaply by bribing local officials. Each group of immigrants insisted on having a synagogue of their own - a phenomenon known throughout the Diaspora. But what caused a real rift in the community was the tension between rich and poor. Francos, immigrants from Christian countries who sought protection from the consuls of the states from which they came, had made fortunes. The rabbinical establishment often sided with the rich, yet there were instances, such as one in Izmir, where the wealthy leaders of the community sacked a rabbi whose adherence to the letter of the law was more than what they were prepared to suffer. But when Christian missionaries tried to make inroads into the Jewish community, the rich reacted with parallel help to the needy. On the whole, the mainly American Baptist missionaries who were active in the Levant in the 19th century, were unsuccessful among the Sephardi Jews of Salonika, Izmir and Istanbul. Being a majority, however, did not give the Jews of Salonika any political power. They could not exercise any influence on the political history of the place they lived in. The Jews of Salonika were not able to defend themselves when history put them at the mercy of the Germans towards the end of World War II.

THE JEWISH FESTIVALS AND HOLY DAYS

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ISRAELI SHARES IN NEW YORK

Table with columns: AMEX, NASDAQ, and various stock symbols with their last prices and changes.

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE. Lists various Israeli companies like Bio Technology General, U.S. Tech, etc.

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE. Lists various Israeli companies like ICG Industries, U.S. Tech, etc.

MISHTANIM

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE. Lists various Israeli companies like Al Paper Mills, Adcochem, etc.

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE. Lists various Israeli companies like ICG Industries, U.S. Tech, etc.

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE. Lists various Israeli companies like ICG Industries, U.S. Tech, etc.

INTERNATIONAL SHARES

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE. Lists various international companies like Al Paper Mills, Adcochem, etc.

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE. Lists various international companies like Al Paper Mills, Adcochem, etc.

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE, LAST, CHANGE. Lists various international companies like Al Paper Mills, Adcochem, etc.

NEW YORK

Large table listing various New York market data, including company names, last prices, and changes.

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

Table listing various New York market indexes like DJ Industrial, DJ Utility, etc.

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

Table listing various other market indexes like FTSE 100, Nikkei, etc.

US COMMODITIES

Table listing various US commodities like Corn, Soybean, etc.

LONDON COMMODITIES

Table listing various London commodities like Gold, Silver, etc.

SPOT MARKET METALS

Table listing various spot market metals like Gold, Silver, etc.

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

Table listing various New York metal futures like Gold, Silver, etc.

LONDON METAL FIXES

Table listing various London metal fixes like Gold, Silver, etc.

DATA COMMUNICATIONS VIA

Table listing various data communication services and providers.

FOREIGN FINANCIAL DATA

Table listing various foreign financial data for different countries.

PARIS

Table listing various Paris market data, including company names and prices.

FRANKFURT

Table listing various Frankfurt market data, including company names and prices.

TASE ROUNDUP

Stocks up, economy grows

Stock indexes rose yesterday after a report that the economy grew more than expected in the first quarter and amid optimism the Bank of Israel will reduce interest rates.

Table with columns: Key Representative Rates, US Dollar, Sterling, Mark, etc.

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

European stocks close strong on US rates

LONDON (Reuters) - European stock markets closed strongly yesterday as Wall Street led a collective sigh of relief that the US Federal Reserve decided against raising interest rates.

WALL STREET REPORT

Dow loses 12 points

NEW YORK (AP) - Technology shares rose yesterday after a robust profit report from Dell Computer, but blue-chip shares pulled back from a foray into record territory.

WHERE TO GO

Notices in this feature are charged at \$15 per line, including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs \$150 per line, including VAT, per month.

JERUSALEM CONDUCTED TOURS

HEBREW TOURS. Tours of the Mount Scopus campus, in English, daily Sun-Thur, 11 a.m. from Bronfman Recreation Center.

TEL AVIV

Jerusalem: Center Pharm, 20 Yad Harutzim, 673-1475; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shuaat, Shuaat Road, 581-0108; Dar Al-Adawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Thursday, May 22 EMERGENCY PHARMACIES. Jerusalem: Center Pharm, 20 Yad Harutzim, 673-1475; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shuaat, Shuaat Road, 581-0108; Dar Al-Adawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.

Weizman: We must negotiate with Syria

By BATSHEVA TSUR

President Ezer Weizman yesterday urged the government to rethink the situation in Lebanon and to return to the negotiating table with Syria. "There can be no solution to the situation in Lebanon unless Israel and Syria sit down to negotiate," Weizman said at a swearing-in ceremony for 14 new magistrate's court judges at Beit Hanassi.

"These are moments of truth. We have to raise questions with the Syrians that are very painful to many people in this country. I am speaking as someone who spent most of my life in the military," the president said. "I have just returned from a visit in Tiberias, in the family of one of the boys who fell last week in Lebanon. On my way back, I heard there had been another attack in Lebanon. The boys who volunteer for the fighting units

are the salt of the earth. They are highly motivated. But we have to offer them the chance of living differently." Weizman said he knows the choice could divide the nation. "We have to think it through very carefully: We can plan new battle tactics - or we can sit down and talk peace." The late premier Menachem Begin, he said, had embraced Anwar Sadat when the Egyptian president came to Jerusalem 20 years ago to talk about peace. Weizman also called for an end to the stalemate with the Palestinians.

"The Oslo agreement is the step-child of the Camp David Accords, which talk of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. We committed ourselves to a permanent solution by 1999. I am pleased to hear there are people who are talking about reaching such an agreement even earlier. We have to keep our commitment."

Barak, Hanegbi propose major court reforms

By BATSHEVA TSUR

The authority of the country's magistrate's courts will be increased and the district courts will deal mainly with appeals. Supreme Court President Aharon Barak said yesterday. Barak said this is part of a reform of the courts which he has proposed together with Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi.

"There are 414 judges in Israel today, more than 300 of them in magistrate's courts," Barak said at a swearing-in ceremony for 14 new judges at Beit Hanassi. "The status of the magistrate's court will change," Barak told them, "[and] you will have to carry more of a burden." He said there

would be "no choice but to increase the number of judges in the country." Barak also called for "decriminalization of the penal code." He said that increasing numbers of crimes could be defined as administrative irregularities on which fines should be imposed. Fewer civil disputes should be brought to the courts, he said. Instead they could be resolved within the community, out of court, or through arbitration. He was discussing this with Hanegbi as well, Barak said.

There are two major objectives that can be achieved before the 50th anniversary of the state, Hanegbi told the new judges. "First, a substantive change in national priorities is required so

that suitable funding will be possible that will strengthen the judiciary system and the prosecution," Hanegbi said. The second objective, he continued, is to "ensure the full independence of the judicial authority." "Too much interference in the workings of the judiciary on the part of the government... leads to a collapse of public confidence in its judges," he said, adding that this, in turn, could affect the entire democratic system.

"The justice minister does not need to retain the large number of administrative privileges which the law currently grants him... The proposed change would not weaken, but rather strengthen the Justice Ministry," Hanegbi said.

WEATHER

Golan 12-24
Haifa 10-26
Tel Aviv 16-25
Jerusalem 13-25
Beersheva 14-25
Dead Sea 24-36
Eilat 21-35

Forecast: Clear to partly cloudy. Temperatures lower than usual for this season.

AROUND THE WORLD

	Low	F	C	Wind
Amsterdam	12	54	21	70
Berlin	08	46	10	54
Buenos Aires	11	52	18	86
Calcutta	18	64	18	30
Chicago	09	38	17	43
Copenhagen	09	38	17	43
Geneva	12	54	21	70
Hong Kong	04	29	20	70
Jakarta	14	57	21	70
London	11	52	18	57
Los Angeles	18	64	24	75
Manila	18	64	24	75
Moscow	02	36	12	54

Psychologists strike over low wages

By JUDY SIEGEL

A strike by all the psychologists in the public sector that began yesterday elicited many requests in the union to deal with emergency cases in disadvantaged areas. The state psychologists are protesting against their "embarrassingly low" wages.

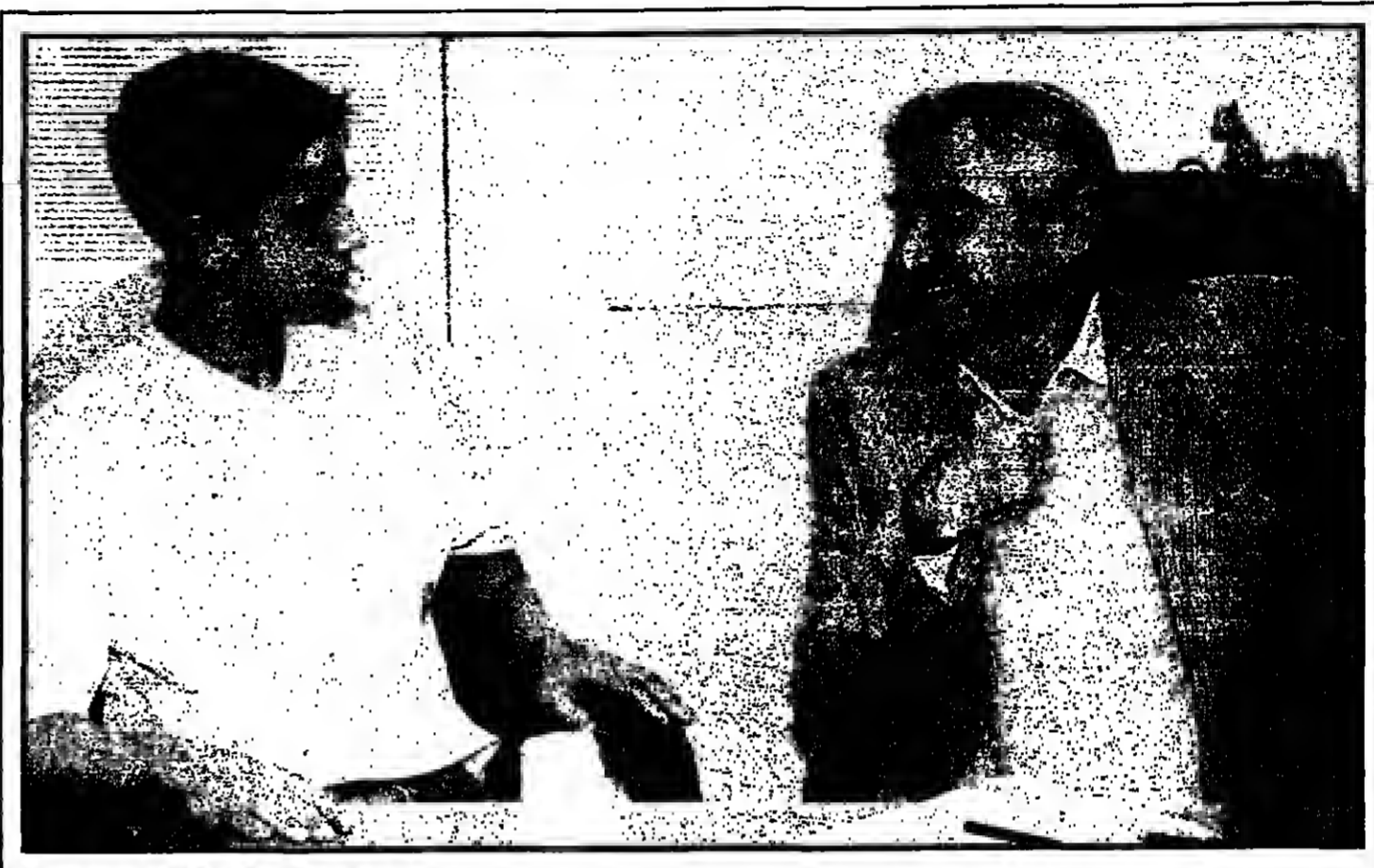
and includes clinical, rehabilitation and developmental psychologists working for the Health Ministry and Kupat Holim Clalit. Strike organizers received many appeals from patients who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder and other problems whose anxieties grew due to cancellation of sessions with their psychologists.

Ministry seeks to regulate clinical trials on humans

By JUDY SIEGEL

The Health Ministry will urgently prepare legislation to regulate clinical trials on human beings, Minister Yehoshua Matza said yesterday. Matza raised the issue in a discussion that included representatives of the Health, Justice and Science ministries and a judge and an ethics expert. All agreed that technological developments create many problems, especially in the ethical field, but they are also vital for the advancement of medicine and the development of new drugs and treatments.

here each year in all the hospitals. The officials noted that the fact that many major pharmaceutical companies and research institutions are interested in Israel "demonstrates the high level of medicine" here. But Matza recognized the need for state-initiated legislation to set down rules in this matter and appointed a small group of experts to present their recommendations during the next few months. A newspaper recently claimed that experimental treatments and drugs developed abroad were being tested here, at risk to patients, because of lax procedures and eagerness in hospitals to get grants for testing.



Leaving nothing to chance
Education Minister Zevulun Hammer meets with National Student and Youth Council Chairman Oded Cohen yesterday. Hammer told him that a committee of educators and council members will discuss how to decide which matriculation exams will be given next year. (Efraim Klibotok)

IBA news gets a reprieve

By HELEN KAYE

Channel 1 head Yair Stern has reversed his decision to cancel the English-language daily news broadcasts, and they will continue uninterrupted, English News head Steve Leibowitz announced yesterday. "This is one time a letter-writing campaign has really paid off," he said. Following Stern's proposal two months ago to close the department for budgetary reasons, staffers mounted a campaign to prevent this.

her own news perspectives and not let other stations [like CNN and BBC] form world opinions about Israel," wrote the Bridges for Peace organization's international director, Clarence Wagner. The 31 nuns who run a home for handicapped children in Jerusalem signed the letter their Superior wrote, saying, "We are volunteers from about 10 countries and our common language is English." The English Speakers Club of Ashdod wrote, new immigrants from Netanya wrote and even Avigdor Lieberman, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, picked up a pen. He wrote to MK Tzvi Weinberg (Yisrael Ba'aliya) that canceling the English news is no longer in the cards. The department's 1997 budget is NIS 1.2 million, a drop from NIS 1.72m. in 1996. The 15-minute news segment is broadcast at 6:15 p.m. during the week, at 4:30 p.m. on Friday and at 5 p.m. on Saturdays to an audience estimated at over 100,000. This includes English-speaking residents, tourists and diplomats. According to Leibowitz, the program also is watched regularly by viewers in Arab countries as well as by Palestinians.

Space scientists seek more funds

By LIAT COLLINS

The discussions in the Knesset Science and Technology Committee reached new heights yesterday - outer space. Space researchers attending the session complained of lack of funds, but MKs brought them down to earth by questioning the need to give more funds to the space program when the national health system is collapsing and there are other pressing social needs closer to home. Uzia Galil, an Israel Prize winner who chaired the committee that established the Israel Space Agency (ISA), noted that Israel is a member of the "exclusive club" of eight countries which have succeeded in developing, producing, and launching their own satellites.

son who is lying at home without nursing care doesn't think about space. And neither does his family." But the scientists had ready answers, noting that space research has practical benefits and is not just a matter of prestige. Dr. Eran Shenkar, who specializes in the medical aspects of space research, countered Oshaya's argument by noting a study in the US which found that \$10 million is spent on hospitalization of the elderly with fractures. "Why wait until they are sick and then spend the money?" he asked. "Why not find the solution to osteoporosis? That's what they're trying to do in space, and then they won't even need the hospital beds." Others argued that space research could help in the study of phenomena such as earthquakes. Prof. Giora Shaviv, head of the Technion's space research center, said the space program could help fund itself by producing marketable products to be sold by Israel Aircraft Industries and Raphael.

Hazorfim

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Petah-Tikva, 4 Shpigel St., Tel. 05-9546752
Jerusalem, 5 Kanfei Nesbarim St., Sbatner Center,
Givat Shaul, Tel. 02-6514026,
Jerusalem, 5 Ya'akov Meir St., Geula, Tel. 02-5585855
Netanya, 15 Remez St. Tel. 09-8616152, Hazorfim Belgium,
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book department

Guide to the Golan Heights

by Ariva Bar-Am and Yisrael Shalem
Renowned travel writer Ariva Bar-Am has teamed up with guide Yisrael Shalem for this up-to-date, full color guide to the Golan and its environs. Incorporates a unique English-Hebrew dictionary of the Golan's flora and fauna, local legends, and vital information about sites. Softcover, 152 pp.

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